

Holiday Shipping Deadlines

Let's get your items there on time!

By Judy Nelson, Owner and Operator of Mail Copy plus

Every year I have people that come in on the 23rd of December saying that they thought they had more time to get their packages to loved ones. We can certainly still get them there, but a little planning will help deter the added cost of Next Day Air services. Who couldn't stand to save some money?!

While UPS & FedEx (and some USPS services) normally guarantee delivery days and times for their services- the holiday season is the exception to that. Shipping can increase more than 60% during this busy time! Keeping that in mind, an ideal time to ship domestically would be before the middle of December. If you're shipping internationally, you'll want to give even more time. Remember, just because it **usually** only takes two or three days to reach Aunt Edna, doesn't mean that it will take the same amount of time during the busy shipping season.

If international shipping is something that confuses you, we are happy to help ease your mind. Just bring in a list of what you're shipping and the values of each item and we can print out your custom forms for you, when you ship with us. If you're not shipping with us, we can answer your questions and give you the forms you'll need.

It's always a good idea to put addresses on the inside of the package as well as the outside. You never know what could happen on the way to its destination – but if a label becomes unreadable- you're covered!

Don't forget that Mail Copy plus offers the new FedEx Flat Rate service. Call or come in to see if we can save you time and money on your shipping!

Here are shipping deadlines straight from the carriers:



Domestic cut off dates

Priority Mail Express Thursday, December 21st

Priority Mail Tuesday, Dec 19th

First Class Mail Monday, Dec 18th

Parcel Service Saturday Dec 9th

International cut off dates

Central & South America and Africa Dec 1 - 1st class & Priority * Dec 11 Express

Asia, Australia, Canada, Mexico, Europe & Middle East Dec 8 - 1st class & Priority * Dec 13 Express

APO/FPO/DPO Military Addresses (depending on zip code)

APO/FPO/DPO AE zip 093

Priority Mail Express Sat, December 2nd

Priority Mail Saturday, Dec 2nd

First Class Mail Saturday, Dec 2nd

APO/FPO/DPO AE all other zip codes

Priority Mail Express Fri, December 15th

Priority Mail Saturday, Dec 9th

First Class Mail Saturday, Dec 9th



UPS

Overnight with a Saturday Delivery- Fri, Dec 22nd

Standard Overnight service- Thurs, Dec 21st

Ground Services- Fri, Dec 15th

Note that Online Service Guarantees suspend for the holidays as of Dec 18th



FedEx

Overnight with a Saturday Delivery- Fri, Dec 22nd

Standard Overnight service- Thurs, Dec 21st

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I tell my customers that these are really just guidelines and shipping early is always a good idea. Friends and family in Arizona will give you a few extra days, but those of you that are shipping farther away – the sooner, the better!

From our house to yours – Merry Christmas and we hope you have a fantastic New Year!